

(b) *Procedures.* A request for inspection of documents or property under this section must describe with reasonable particularity the documents or other property to which access is sought. The request must also specify a reasonable time, place, and manner of making the inspection.

§ 385.408 Admissions (Rule 408).

(a) *General rule.* A participant may serve upon any other participant a written request for admission of the genuineness of any document or the truth of any matter of fact. The request must be served upon all participants.

(b) *Procedures.* (1) Any request for admission of the genuineness of a document must be accompanied by a legible copy of the document, unless it was previously furnished, is in the possession of the recipient of the request, or is readily available for inspection and copying.

(2) The truth of specified matters of fact or the genuineness of the documents described in a request are deemed admitted unless, within 20 days after service of the request or any longer period designated in the request, the participant that receives the request serves upon the requesting participant a written answer or objection addressed to the matters in the request.

(3) An answer must specifically admit or deny the truth of the matters in the request or set forth in detail the reasons why the answering participant cannot admit or deny the truth of each matter. A denial of the truthfulness of the requested admission must fairly discuss the substance of the requested admission and, when good faith requires that a participant qualify the answer or deny only a part of the matter of which an admission is requested, the participant must specify that which is true and qualify or deny the remainder. The answer must be served on all participants.

(c) *Effect of admission.* Any admission made by a participant under this section is for the purpose of the pending proceeding only, is not an admission for any other purpose, and may not be used against the participant in any other proceeding. Any matter admitted

under this rule is conclusively established unless the presiding officer, on motion, permits withdrawal or amendment of the admission. The presiding officer may permit withdrawal or amendment of an admission, if the presiding officer finds that the presentation of the merits of the proceeding will be promoted and the participant who obtained the admission has failed to satisfy the presiding officer that withdrawal or amendment of the admission will prejudice that participant in maintaining his position in the proceeding.

[Order 225, 47 FR 19022, May 3, 1982, as amended by Order 466-A, 52 FR 35909, Sept. 24, 1987]

§ 385.409 Subpoenas (Rule 409).

(a) *Issuance.* On request, the presiding officer may issue a subpoena for the attendance of a witness at a deposition or hearing or for the production of documents. A request for a subpoena must be served on all participants.

(b) *Service and return.* A subpoena issued under this section must be served by personal service, substituted service, registered mail, or certified mail. A subpoena may be served by the marshal, by his deputy, or by any other person who is not a party or an employee of a party and is at least 18 years of age. If personal service is made by any person other than a United States marshal or deputy marshal, return of service must be accompanied by an affidavit to the Secretary or the presiding officer and must state the time and manner of service of the subpoena.

(c) *Fees.* Fees paid to subpoenaed persons will be in accordance with Rule 510(e).

(d) *Objections.* Objections to subpoenas must be made in accordance with Rule 410.

§ 385.410 Objections to discovery, motions to quash or to compel, and protective orders (Rule 410).

(a) *Objection to discovery—(1) Notice of objections or motion to quash.* A participant, or a recipient of a subpoena, who does not intend to comply with a discovery request must notify in writing the participant seeking discovery within a reasonable time in advance of the

date on which a response or other action in conformance with the discovery request is due. A recipient of a subpoena may either provide a notice of objection or file a motion to quash.

(2) *Objections to production of documents.* (i) Unless an objection to discovery under this section is based on the ground that production would impose an undue burden, the objecting participant must provide the participant seeking discovery with a schedule of items withheld and a statement of:

(A) The character and specific subject matter of each item; and

(B) The specific objection asserted for each item.

(ii) If an objection under this section is based on the ground that production of the requested material would impose an undue burden, the objecting participant must provide the participant seeking discovery with a description of the approximate number of documents that would have to be produced and a summary of the information contained in such documents.

(3) *Objections to other discovery requests.* If the discovery to which objection is made is not a request for documents, the objection must clearly state the grounds on which the participant bases its objection.

(4) *Objections to compile or process information.* The fact that information has not been compiled or processed in the form requested is not a basis for objection unless the objection presents grounds for limiting discovery under paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) *Motions to compel.* Any participant seeking discovery may file a motion to compel discovery, if:

(1) A participant to whom a data request is made or upon whom an interrogatory is served under Rule 406 fails or refuses to make a full, complete, and accurate response;

(2) A person named in a notice of intent to take a deposition or a subpoena fails or refuses to appear for the deposition;

(3) An organization named in a notice of intent to take a deposition fails or refuses to designate one or more persons to testify on its behalf under Rule 404(b)(3);

(4) A deponent fails or refuses to answer fully, completely, and accurately

a question propounded or to sign the transcript of the testimony as required by Rule 404(f)(2);

(5) A participant upon whom a request for admissions is served fails or refuses to respond to the request in accordance with Rule 408(b); or

(6) A participant upon whom an order to produce or to permit inspection or entry is served under Rule 407 fails or refuses to comply with that order.

(c) *Orders limiting discovery.* A presiding officer may, by order, deny or limit discovery or restrict public disclosure of discoverable matter in order to:

(1) Protect a participant or other person from undue annoyance, burden, harassment or oppression;

(2) Prevent undue delay in the proceeding;

(3) Preserve a privilege of a participant, person, or governmental agency;

(4) Prevent a participant from requiring another participant to provide information which is readily available to the requesting participant from other sources with a reasonable expenditure of effort given the requesting participant's position and resources;

(5) Prevent unreasonably cumulative or duplicative discovery requests; or

(6) Provide a means by which confidential matters may be made available to participants so as to prevent public disclosure. Material submitted under a protective order may nevertheless be subject to Freedom of Information Act requests and review.

(d) *Privilege—(1) In general.* (i) In the absence of controlling Commission precedent, privileges will be determined in accordance with decisions of the Federal courts with due consideration to the Commission's need to obtain information necessary to discharge its regulatory responsibilities.

(ii) A presiding officer may not quash a subpoena or otherwise deny or limit discovery on the ground of privilege unless the presiding officer expressly finds that the privilege claimed is applicable. If a presiding officer finds that a qualified privilege has been established, the participant seeking discovery must make a showing sufficient to warrant discovery despite the qualified privilege.

(iii) A presiding officer may issue a protective order under Rule 410(c) to

deny or limit discovery in order to preserve a privilege of a participant, person, or governmental agency.

(2) *Of the Commission.* (i) If discovery under this subpart would require the production of Commission information, documents, or other matter that might fall within a privilege, the Commission trial staff must identify in writing the applicable privilege along with the matters claimed to be privileged or the individuals from whom privileged information is sought, to the presiding officer and the parties.

(ii) If the presiding officer determines that the privilege claimed for the Commission is applicable, the Commission information, documents, or other matter may not be produced. If the presiding officer determines that no privilege is applicable, that a privilege is waived, or that a qualified privilege is overcome, the presiding officer will certify the matter to the Commission in accordance with Rule 714. Certification to the Commission under this paragraph must describe the material to be disclosed and the reasons which, in the presiding officer's view, justify disclosure. The information will not be disclosed unless the Commission affirmatively orders the material disclosed.

[Order 225, 47 FR 19022, May 3, 1982, as amended by Order 466–A, 52 FR 35910, Sept. 24, 1987]

§ 385.411 Sanctions (Rule 411).

(a) *Disobedience of order compelling discovery.* If a participant or any other person fails to obey an order compelling discovery, the presiding officer may, after notice to the participant or person and an opportunity to be heard, take one or more of the following actions, but may not dismiss or otherwise terminate the proceeding:

(1) Certify the matter to the Commission with a recommendation for dismissal or termination of the proceeding, termination of that participant's right to participate in the proceeding, institution of civil action, or any other sanction available to the Commission by law;

(2) Order that the matters to which the order compelling discovery relates are taken as established for the purposes of the proceeding in accordance

with the position of the participant obtaining the order;

(3) Order that a participant be precluded from supporting or opposing such positions or introducing such matters in evidence as the presiding officer designates;

(4) Order that all or part of any pleading by a participant be struck or that the proceeding or a phase of the proceeding be stayed until the order compelling discovery is obeyed; and

(5) Recommend to the Commission that it take action under Rule 2102 against a representative of the participant if the presiding officer believes that the representative has engaged in unethical or improper professional conduct.

(b) *Against representative of a participant.* If the person disobeying an order compelling discovery is an agent, officer, employee, attorney, partner, or director of a participant, the presiding officer may take any of the actions described in paragraph (a) against that participant.

Subpart E—Hearings

§ 385.501 Applicability (Rule 501).

This subpart applies to any proceeding, or part of a proceeding, that the Commission or the Secretary under delegated authority sets for a hearing to be conducted in accordance with this subpart.

[Order 492, 53 FR 16067, May 5, 1988]

§ 385.502 Initiation of hearing (Rule 502).

(a) *Notice or order initiating hearing.* A hearing under this subpart will be initiated by:

(1) Order of the Commission;

(2) Notice by the Secretary at the direction of the Commission or under delegated authority; or

(3) Order of the Oil Pipeline Board.

(b) *Contents of notice or order initiating hearing.* Any order or notice under paragraph (a) of this section will set forth:

(1) The authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held;

(2) The nature of the proceeding;

(3) The final date for the filing of interventions, if the dates were not fixed by an earlier notice;